

For example, claim 1 comprises a data distribution server that includes a plurality of data files that are structured individually by dividing distributed data. Also, each of the data files is classified by type of each data file and by function of each data file.

The Examiner contends that Paragraphs 0074 and 0075 of Ashby suggest the claimed data files, but Applicants respectfully disagree. For example, this portion of Ashby states that a database includes data records that represent individual road segments, and each of these road segment data records includes a rank attribute that corresponds to the functional classification of the road segment. If a node joins two of the road segments and if these road segments have the same rank attribute, the disclosed system forms an aggregated segment record relating to the individual road segments and suppresses or drops the node connecting the segments. As such, Ashby does not suggest data files that are structured individually by dividing distributed data, that are classified by type, and that are classified by function.

Since Tagi does not cure the deficient teachings of Ashby with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable. Also, since claim 8 contains features that are similar to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that it is patentable for similar reasons. Furthermore, since claims 2-7 and 9-12 depend upon claim 1 or 8, Applicants submit that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

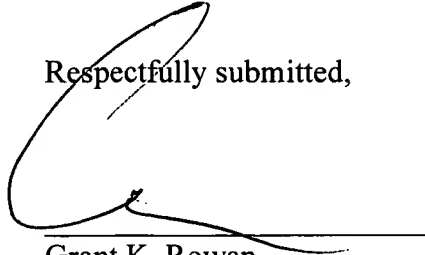
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 09/987,632

Attorney Docket No. Q66942

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Grant K. Rowan', written over a horizontal line.

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